ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A light emitting element such as an organic EL element comprises a first electrode formed of a transparent electrode on a side from which light is emitted to outside, and a second electrode formed on a back side of the element so as to be opposed to the first electrode with a light emitting element layer interposed therebetween. The second electrode is designed to be a semitransparent electrode, and, on a further back side of the second electrode, an antireflective layer with a low optical reflectivity is formed. The semitransparent second electrode does not reflect but transmits light incident from outside of the element and transmitted through the transparent electrode, and then the antireflective layer absorbs the transmitted light, thereby making it possible to suppress reflection of ambient light on a surface of the back-side electrode and to achieve improvement in contrast. The second electrode may, for example, be made of a metal material formed as a thin film, or be provided with apertures to thereby exhibit semitransparency.